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"General Bergeret, at the head of the troops, led them on with the cry of 'Long live the Republic!' He had two horses killed under him."—*Official Despatch of the Paris Commune.*

"In another second another flash broke from the grey battlements of the fortress: there was a fresh report, another rushing and whizzing sound, and the two horses yoked in General Bergeret's carriage were literally blown to pieces."—*Report of the "Daily Telegraph's" Special Correspondent.*

FICTION AND FACT AT PARIS.

Topics of the Week.

THE LONDON HOLIDAY SEASON.

THE University boat-race may be said to begin the London season. Not till the event is "pulled off" either by the Light or the Dark Blue can the holiday-time be said to have dawned on dwellers in the metropolis. The Oxford and Cambridge match heralds the spring; and the great enthusiastic crowd which assembles, so to speak, on common ground, at the edge of the water, regards it as an occasion for celebrating the first "outing" of the year.

There are several reasons why this aquatic contest between the youths of our two great Universities should have become so important an anniversary and so truly popular an institution as to be almost national in its significance. There is a significant belief on the part of the public that it is almost the only "sporting event" which is above the suspicion of being "sold," and that, whatever may be the result, the race will be fairly contested. Even now that the Easter holidays are over, and we are dwelling on reminiscences of the pleasure of the week, there is another great metropolitan gathering to look forward to. The assembly on Epsom Downs follows Eastertide very quickly; but "the Derby" is not, so to speak, of such general and almost *domestic* interest as the "boat-race." It doesn't come home so familiarly to all classes. The quiet and respectable portion of the middle and working classes cannot regard it with enthusiasm; and even the more sporting part of the community have no very complacent associations with the race itself as an actual trial of speed and strength. In fact, most of us know what horseracing has come to. The bookmakers, the touts, and the professional wagerers speculate on probabilities without having so much as seen the horses, and without the knowledge that would make the seeing them of any value. To all but the few who are up to "stable secrets," the betting is a lottery in which money is laid on numbers instead of on the horses. The result is frequently provided for beforehand, so that it becomes a lottery on the chances and changes of chicanery; and both betting and racing are not sports, but trades—very often nefarious trades. As to such racing, as a sport, improving the breed of horses, that fallacy is surely exploded.

Horses are bred expressly to accomplish the few exhausting flights that will pull off so many "thou" for their backers, and they are useless for any other purpose—mere delicate Italian-greyhound creatures, who are often worthless after one or two of the efforts they are intended to make have been accomplished. But we had no design to forestall "the Derby" as one of the Topics of the present week. We began by a reference to the opening of the holiday season on the banks of the river, always so attractive to the British clay, which, possibly from its island origin, appears susceptible to much moistening. A tramp to Putney, or Chiswick, or Hammersmith is within cockney achievement at any time, and the Saturday half-holiday has given us more opportunity to make acquaintance with the beautiful suburbs of the great City—the lovely varied fringe that lies around the dense web of London. There is something about that Saturday's outing which has the flavour of a stolen pleasure—by which we mean the sweetness of a legitimate pleasure unfettered by authority and not neces sarily solemnised by law, but left to the more grateful liberty of custom and general recognition. To a people who have no saints' festivals, and only two days in all the year which by the sanction and command of the Church remains to them out of all the calendar, some valid excuse for a little jaunt, away from the wear and tear of the great grindstone, is an absolute necessity. It will be well for us to beware of those who, by abolishing all distinctions of days, would rob us both of our Sundays and our holidays. They are even as dangerous as the opposite party who would make holy days days of dark and gloomy observance, and shut out the air and light of life with continual sackcloth and ashes. Let us work and pray, and play; for we may not only work but pray *in* our play, since the healthiest of play is but change of work, and may be very high work too—the cultivation of faculties of life and of the love to our fellows which is life's very essence and joy.

Even "Her Majesty's Birthday," set down among the few recognised close days at public offices, cannot be claimed by working men and women, so that there are few opportunities for the large community which is not to be classed with the idlers and sots who make "*Saint Monday*" every week, and celebrate it in the reeking atmosphere of the beershop or the gin-palace. To get away from customary labour sometimes, so that a return to that labour may be a fresh pleasure, is what we need. It gives us a new sense of interest in our occupation, a wider acceptance of our daily duty, a more cheerful capacity for effort, a keener ability of brain and body for "taking pains," a kindlier, heartier feeling for each other, a recurring interest to conversation, a sprightlier appreciation of the hours of leisure.

It would be well if we had a few more informal, but still generally recognised, holidays—days on which men and women in employment could quietly and respectfully claim their right to independence on the ground of an admitted custom, not necessarily demanded for them by the law, but acknowledged, in the interests of a common humanity.

The present season has begun well, begun with a popular Royal wedding; and there is reason to expect that holidays will not be fewer than usual this year. Probably they will be more numerous than they have been at any period since the last "Great Exhibition." For some time past intelligent companies of working men have made good use of their half holidays at the British Museum and other galleries where they have been accompanied by cheerful professors who have delivered short descriptive lectures on some of the objects of interest. These visits will probably find practical uses at the forthcoming Industrial Exhibition at South Kensington. It may be earnestly hoped that that Exhibition may become what it is intended to be—the first of a series of international displays for bringing together each year examples of the various improvements in arts, science, and manufactures from every part of the world. As earnestly should it be prevented from deteriorating into a mere bazaar, for the sale of ordinary tradesmen's goods, collected in shop cases, and forced upon the attention of visitors by the persistent efforts of persistent touters. We confess that we have some fear lest such a result may be attempted by eminent advertising firms, if some stringent regulations are not observed; but we hope that the better claims of the New Palace of Industry will prevail, and secure for it a permanent organisation as an institution for international instruction, and for such peaceful and unselfish competition as will increase the sum of human knowledge and make every holiday spent at South Kensington an opportunity for learning how to work more effectually.

LONDON LIFE AND NATIONAL HEALTH.

There can now be little doubt that the disease which has for some time been a cause of dread is on the decline—a result which may be attributed to the active measures for enforcing vaccination and such sanitary regulations as, among a properly-instructed and a self-respecting people, should need no urgent legal enforcement. The decline is very gradual, and exhibits a certain slow regularity which at once indicates that the spread of the disorder is only checked by the provision made for counteracting its effects. While the rate of death from smallpox was 3 per 1000 of the population in London according to the latest detailed account of the Registrar-General, it was as many as 7 per 1000 in Liverpool; and the general death-rate in London was 25 per 1000, while in Liverpool, Manchester, and Salford it was respectively 36, 27, and 27. These figures, and all such figures, must however be regarded as of comparatively little definite value apart from the considerations affecting the locality to which they relate. For instance, beside the unsanitary condition of the poorer district of Liverpool, the town itself is a kind of entrepôt where large numbers of persons embark, disembark, or make a brief stay during outward or homeward voyages. Of course, 25 per 1000 for London, the great resort of the kingdom, with a large floating and migrating population, argues strongly for the wonderfully healthy position of the metropolis. We may well congratulate ourselves on living in such a salubrious capital, and on the improvements which are opening up broad, airy thoroughfares, and demolishing the foul tangles of streets where disease hovered and dirt and misery bred pestilence among the poor. Let us hope, however, that the streets which are to be rebuilt may some of them be devoted to the erection of dwellings for the decent working classes who can afford to pay rent and are now compelled to give for wretched rooms in rotting tenements a weekly sum that would make decent and substantially appointed houses a good investment to their owners.

Yes, London is a healthy city; but week by week there is a dreadful danger lying in wait in its streets. Until the drivers of public vehicles find it to their own peril to be reckless of the lives and limbs of those for whom the streets are made; until cabmen, omnibus drivers, butchers' boys, bakers' boys, carmen, and all who are now intrusted with powerful horses drawing heavy vans are taught that the whole roadway is not theirs, and theirs alone, to the exclusion of the crowded pedestrian; until the employers of these men and boys are roundly fined, and the actual perpetrators of outrages in the streets personally punished by imprisonment, the same dreadful item which appears under the false title of "casualties" or "accidents" in the street will still appear in the returns. In the last list to which we refer in the present article the number of *deaths* by being run over in the streets was set at forty-eight during the first three months of the year, an increase of five over the same period last year. How many cripples have been made, and how many have been seriously injured, and "all but killed," we must leave to the imagination of our readers. It is a grim reflection.

SETTLEMENT OF THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

EARL DE GREY AND RIPON, Grand Master of English Freemasons, in responding to an address of welcome at a grand Freemasons' banquet in New York, on Monday, said that Englishmen would rejoice that this first step had been taken towards effecting a closer union between American and English Freemasons. The *Tribune* announces, on good authority, the favourable progress of the deliberations of the High Commission, and their satisfactory termination. An extra Session of Congress will be held in about a week, to consider the arrangements recommended.

Home News.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

with Prince Leopold and Princess Beatrice, is expected to reside at Osborne till about the end of this month, and then return to Windsor, where the Court will remain for about ten days. On Thursday week the Queen received intelligence of the Princess of Wales having given birth to a son at Sandringham, followed by good accounts of her Royal Highness; but on Good Friday afternoon the Queen received the melancholy intelligence of the infant's death. Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice, Prince Arthur, and Prince Leopold, attended Divine Service at Whippingham church on Sunday morning. The Rev. George Prothero preached the sermon.

BIRTH AND DEATH OF A PRINCE.

A supplement to the *London Gazette* was published on Monday, containing the following:—"Sandringham, April 6, 1871.—This day, at a quarter before three o'clock p.m., her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales was safely delivered of a Prince. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales was present. The event was made known by the firing in the Park and Tower guns." A second supplement to the *Gazette* publishes the following:—"Sandringham, April 8, 1871.—On Friday, the 7th inst., about one o'clock p.m., died, at Sandringham, his Royal Highness Prince Alexander John Charles Albert, infant son of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, to the great grief of her Majesty and of the Royal family."

COURT MOURNING.

"Lord Chamberlain's Office, April 8, 1871.—The for the Court's going into mourning, as follows:—For ten days, from Monday, the 10th inst., for the late Royal Highness Prince Alexander John Charles Albert, infant son of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. The ladies to wear black silk dresses, trimmed with crape, and crape shoes and gloves, black fans, feathers, and ornaments. The gentlemen to wear black Court dress, with crape swords and buckles, and plain linen."

THE FUNERAL

of Prince Alexander Charles John Albert, the infant son of the Prince and Princess of Wales, took place on Tuesday, at Sandringham, at about one o'clock. The Prince of Wales and his two sons were the chief mourners. The officiating clergymen were the Bishop of Rochester, the Rev. the Dean of Windsor and the Rev. W. Onslow, M.A.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

MAY DAY being so close at hand, the interior of the Exhibition building presents a most animated appearance, no effort being spared by the energetic staff to get the art-treasures in order by the opening day. It is now well known that the forthcoming great show, the first of a series of annual exhibitions

of art and industrial productions, will comprise selected works of painting, sculpture, music, stained glass, mosaics, furniture, pottery of all kinds (in which Messrs. Minton promise to excel), woollen and worsted manufactures, machinery in motion, and a natural history collection of particular interest, to which "The Naturalist" calls attention in another column. Season tickets admitting to the International Exhibition, to the daily musical performances in the Royal Albert Hall, to the flower shows and gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society at South Kensington, from May 1 to Sept. 30, price £3 3s. may be had at the Royal Albert Hall, of Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Y. D. Scott, secretary and architect both of the Exhibition and the Albert Hall.

INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION AT SHEFFIELD.

An Extensive Exhibition of industries, arts, and manufactures was opened in the Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield, by the Master Cutler, on Monday. The Exhibition is under the auspices of a committee of young men, who represent an organisation numbering 2500 of the operative classes of Sheffield.

THE ANNUAL CO-OPERATIVE CONGRESS

was on Monday opened at the Midland Institute, Birmingham. The Hon. Auberon Herbert, M.P., who presided, recommended co-operators to cultivate more assiduously relations with trades unions, and urged the formation of a co-operative bank. The report of the central board announced that a co-operative newspaper would shortly appear, but stated that the project of the bank had been found at present impracticable. A paper by Mr. Bailey Walker, of Manchester, was read and discussed. Complaints were made by several members that co-operators did not sufficiently deal at their own stores, and that the stores did not support the wholesale co-operative associations.

THE PUBLICANS' BILL.

Mr. Bruce's licensing bill is again brought before our notice this week by a Punch cartoon, which surely does an injustice to a large and respectable class, while hitting hard, at the same time, the black sheep among the licensed victuallers. Publicans, as a rule, will, no doubt, be willing to see the licensing system settled for good and all; and to that end, Mr. Bruce's propositions are fairly considered by them. The principles of the bill apart from details, appear to be five:—1. That the proper number of public-houses in the kingdom—it is now greatly exceeded all over England—be fixed by the legislature. 2. That, if increase is allowed, the ratepayers of a district to be fixed by the justices shall have power by a three-fifths vote to forbid such increase. 3. That, if increase is allowed, each increase shall have the house for himself or the highest bidder shall have the house for himself at the highest bidder. 4. That the justices retaining no discretion. 4. That from the police, and intrusted to a separate department of inspectors. 5. That existing licensees shall receive a certain number of years' licence in compensation for losses. Some say 14 years' licence in compensation for losses. Some say add that the trade protests against the ten years' term as confiscation; that the great towns like the bill well enough, only so far as known content the delay; and that the country districts seem to be agitated against it.

PARISH RATE COLLECTING.

Mr. Goschen's Measure for the reform of our system of local taxation has caused no slight discussion in vestries, whose peccadilloes he was so sharp upon during the time he held the Presidency of the Poor-Law Board. The first principles are, that each parish elect a chairman, who, aided, but not controlled by a small council, shall represent it, and shall be the only authority within it competent to make a rate. That every existing board having an indent on him for the amount due by the parish. That the chairman shall levy all rates through a single "demand-note," which shall make an indent on him for the rate, having the items of the account printed on it. That county rates shall be settled and fixed, but not levied—by a financial board, which shall be elected half by the justices and half by the parish chairmen. That a new Ministry shall be created to attend to local taxation as the Treasury attends to imperial, and that such Minister shall also be President of the Poor-Law Board. The hierarchy therefore, creates a complete working hierarchy from each country parish up to Gwydyr House. Mr. Goschen has declined to alter the incidence of local taxation as regards the kind of property to be taxed, believing the land to be not unfairly burdened. He, however, proposes that, subject in all cases to existing leases, rates henceforth shall be divided between owner and occupier, future agreements to the contrary being invalid. He also submits all the exempted properties, Crown property, charitable property, metalliferous mines, and *game* to the rates, and finally resigns to the ratepayers the whole of the house duty, yielding £1,200,000 a year.

EXCURSIONS FROM THE METROPOLIS.

The Fineness of the Weather on Easter Monday, and the facilities offered by railway, steamboat, and tramway companies for outdoor enjoyment, drew away many thousands of people from the metropolis, and gave rise to many exciting scenes at the various railway termini. From Fenchurch-street crowds left for Southend, and the suburban traffic of the line was wellnigh over-weighted. As usual on Easter Monday, there was an immense flow of people into Greenwich, and all day long there was a continuous living stream from the railway station to the park, reversed only when darkness set in. Excursionists went down by the thousand to Broxbourne and Rye House by the Great Eastern; to Henley-on-Thames, Taplow, &c., by the Great Western; and to Ramsgate and Margate by the London, Chatham, and Dover. The cheap enjoyment of passing through the Tower Subway was indulged in by many whose means did not afford a trip country-wards; while the Old Swan Pier, London Bridge, was literally crowded, at an early hour, with people bound by express saloon-steamer for Gravesend, with the prospect of a sail off Sheerness and a sight of the Great Eastern. The trains for Windsor, both on the Great Western and South-Western lines, were filled during the day with Londoners bent on visiting the castle terraces, the Long Walk, the Great Park, and Eton. The traffic on the lines—both the High Level and the London, Brighton, and South Coast—to the Crystal Palace was, it is stated, unparalleled by that of any former Easter Monday. At all the London termini the arrangements for the accommodation of the vast crowds appeared to be excellent.

A HOLIDAY CRUSH.

Shocking Occurrence.—Two sisters, twenty-one and seventeen years, daughters of a Mr. Hill, haydealer, Swansea, met with a shocking death on the railway at Briton Ferry on Good Friday. The railway station was overcrowded with excursionists, and there was a good deal of crushing and jostling. The unfortunate girls, anxious to obtain seats, rushed at the end compartment of a carriage while the train was in motion and fell between the couplings of the carriages. One was killed on the spot, and the other was so dreadfully injured that she died the next day.

THE IRISH LAND COURTS

are still busy. In Queen's County Mr. Samuel Talbott, of Grennan House, claimed four years' rent, £6 for disturbance, £165 for unexhausted improvements, and £26 fine paid for getting possession. The respondent, the Rev. Mr. Draper, explained that he would not have disturbed him if he had not wanted the land for his parishioners, who desired to purchase the glebe. Mr. Clarke, Q.C., awarded one year's rent and £10 for improvements. At Sligo, Mrs. M. Powel claimed £995 from Colonel Cooper, of Montaree, being two years' rent, £90 for disturbance, and the rest for improvements. The respondent resisted this demand on several grounds, and claimed a set off for deterioration. The chairman, Mr. J. R. Hamilton, Q.C., suggested that an arrangement should be made, and postponed his decision.

Garden Work.

(From the "Gardener's Magazine.")

FLOWER GARDEN.

Hardy annuals sown in cold frames, to get them rather earlier than others sown out of doors, may be now transferred to their permanent quarters, and make room in the frames for tender subjects. Edgings of variegated mint and variegated arabis can be divided and replanted. Where compact edgings of the latter already exist, it will not be wise to disturb them; but the former should be taken up and replanted. It will grow with a greater degree of regularity, and be better altogether than if left untouched. Stools of chrysanthemums may still be divided, and the suckers potted, if sufficient cuttings have not been struck. Top-dress beds of pinks and pansies with an equal proportion of rotten manure and leaf-mould.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Plant out from seed-beds and frames cabbages, cauliflowers, and lettuces. Cabbage varieties of the latter which have stood out all the winter may be blanched by turning flower-pots over them. Sufficient work will be afforded the kitchen gardener for the next few days in bringing up the arrears of work advised to be done in previous calendars. Though it is not too late to sow and plant many crops advised to be got in within the last three weeks, the earlier they now receive attention the better. Bear in mind that it needs as much labour to sow or plant crops a month behind-hand as it does at the proper time, with perhaps not more than half the returns.

FRUIT GARDEN.

Put a mulch of long litter between the rows of strawberry plants to smother the weeds. The rains will wash its goodness down to the roots of the plant, and leave the straw clean for protecting the fruit from the dirt. This should be used in preference to the short grass, for the latter sticks to the fruit in wet weather, and is nearly as bad as dirt, besides frequently imparting a disagreeable flavour to the fruit.

HOW TO PRESERVE A BOUQUET.

The *Western Rural* advises:—"Sprinkle it lightly with fresh water, and put it in a vase containing soapsuds. Each morning take the bouquet out of the suds, and lay it sideways in clean water; keep it there a minute or two, then take it out, and sprinkle the flowers lightly by the hand with water. Replace it in the suds, and it will remain as fresh as when first gathered. Change the suds every three or four days. This method will keep a bouquet bright and beautiful for at least a month."

Chit-Chat.

The Ex-Emperor Napoleon is said to be suffering from the curiosity of our holiday public. On Good Friday several vans full of excursionists discharged their freights over the district of Chiselhurst, and the Imperial exile was obliged to secrete himself from a horde of worthy Britons who had come down with sandwiches and beer to have a look at him.

The Imperial Exile has sold the Villa Mills at Rome for the sum of 600,000f. (£24,000).

Prince Napoleon has given £20,000 for a house at Lancaster-gate, for which he contrived to save the choicest furniture, pictures, and objects of art that once glittered at Meudon and the Palais Royal. He is said to have sold his estate and château in Switzerland to Mr. Lucas, the contractor, for £70,000.

Madame Adelina Patti.—On her way to England to fulfil her engagements for the present season Madame Adelina Patti could not resist the temptation of accepting the rôle of Violetta in "Traviata" at the Théâtre de la Monnaie, Brussels, for the sum of about £360 for a single night. The 4f. places rose to 25f., and the receipts of a full house (usually 3000f.) advanced to 20,000f. She makes her appearance at Covent Garden to-night in "La Sonnambula."

Death of Schamyl.—The great Circassian chieftain, Schamyl, whose death has just been reported at Media, in Turkey, had long passed his threescore years and ten.

Mr. John Balsir Chatterton, the well-known harpist to the Queen and Professor at the Royal Academy of Music, died, after a short illness, on Sunday.

A Series of Lectures, designed "to meet current forms of Unbelief among the Educated Classes," is about to be delivered in St. George's Hall, Langham-place, under the auspices of the Christian Evidence Society. The first will be on April 25, by the Archbishop of York, who will be followed by the Bishops of Carlisle and Ely.

The late Mr. Ernest Jones.—On Saturday a monument erected in Ardwick Cemetery, Manchester, in memory of the late Mr. Ernest Jones, was uncovered in the presence of a large number of spectators.

Royal Present to Crathie Church.—There has just been completed a magnificent solid silver communion service, bearing the following inscription:—"Presented by her Majesty Queen Victoria to the Parish Church of Crathie, 1871." The service consists of a flagon, four cups, and two salvers, and is Gothic in design.

A Court Mystery.—Twenty years ago, upon May 1, 1851, on the occasion of the opening of the International Exhibition in Hyde Park, the late Arthur Duke of Wellington presented to his little godson, Prince Arthur, then only twelve months old, a small sealed casket, with instructions that the birthday gift should not be opened till the Prince attained his majority. May 1, 1871, is rapidly approaching, when the casket should be opened. It will be interesting to learn its contents.

The Cape Mail brings intelligence of a fearful flood which occurred at Victoria West on Feb. 27, owing to the bursting of a waterspout, causing great destruction of property and fearful loss of life. Upwards of thirty houses had been washed away, and others were threatened with the same fate. The bodies of fifty-four persons had already been recovered, and forty-five others were still missing.

A Saturday Half-Holiday Book.—Mr. Henry Walker's "Saturday Afternoon Rambles Round London" (Hodder and Stoughton) is a pleasant volume, embracing both the picturesque and the scientific aspects of the localities which he describes. It will be a valuable guide and an agreeable companion to the rambler round about London, and the excursionist whose leave of absence is counted by a few hours.

Oakey's Wellington Knife Polish.—Old Knives cleaned with this preparation bear a brilliancy of polish equal to new. Can be used with any kind of knife-board or knife-cleaning machine. Packages, 3d.; Tins, 6d., 1s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. each. Wholesale—Oakey and Sons, Wellington Emery and Black-Lead Mills, Blackfriars, London.—[Advt.]

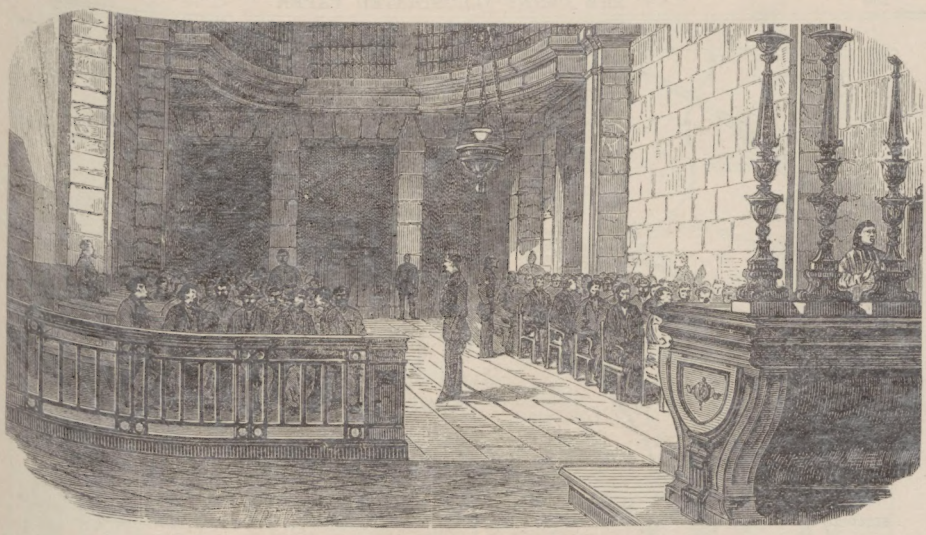
Floriline!—For the Teeth and Breath.—A few drops of the Fragrant Floriline on a wet toothbrush produces a delightful foam, which cleanses the teeth from all impurities, strengthens and hardens the gums, prevents tartar, and arrests the progress of decay. It gives to the teeth a peculiar and beautiful whiteness, and imparts a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth, a disordered stomach, or tobacco smoke. The Fragrant Floriline is purely vegetable, and equally adapted to old and young. It is the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Sold in elegant cases, complete, at 2s. 6d., by all Chemists and Perfumers. H. C. Gallup, Proprietor, 493, Oxford-street, London.—[Advt.]

Hair Dye.—Batchelor's Instantaneous Columbian, the best in the world, black or brown. The only one that remedies the evil effects of bad dyes. 4s. 6d., 7s., and 14s., of all Perfumers and Chemists.—R. Hovenden and Sons, 5, Great Marlborough-street, W.; and 93 and 95, City-road.—[Advt.]

Harmoniums, best quality only, full compass, £4 15s.; 3 stops, £5 12s.; 5 stops, £6 12s.; 7 stops, £6 15s.; 8 stops, £8 17s. 6d.; 10 stops, £11 11s., &c. Warranted, and packed free. Price Lists of all kinds of Musical Instruments post-free. B. W., & Thost, 363, Whitechapel-road, London.—[Advt.]

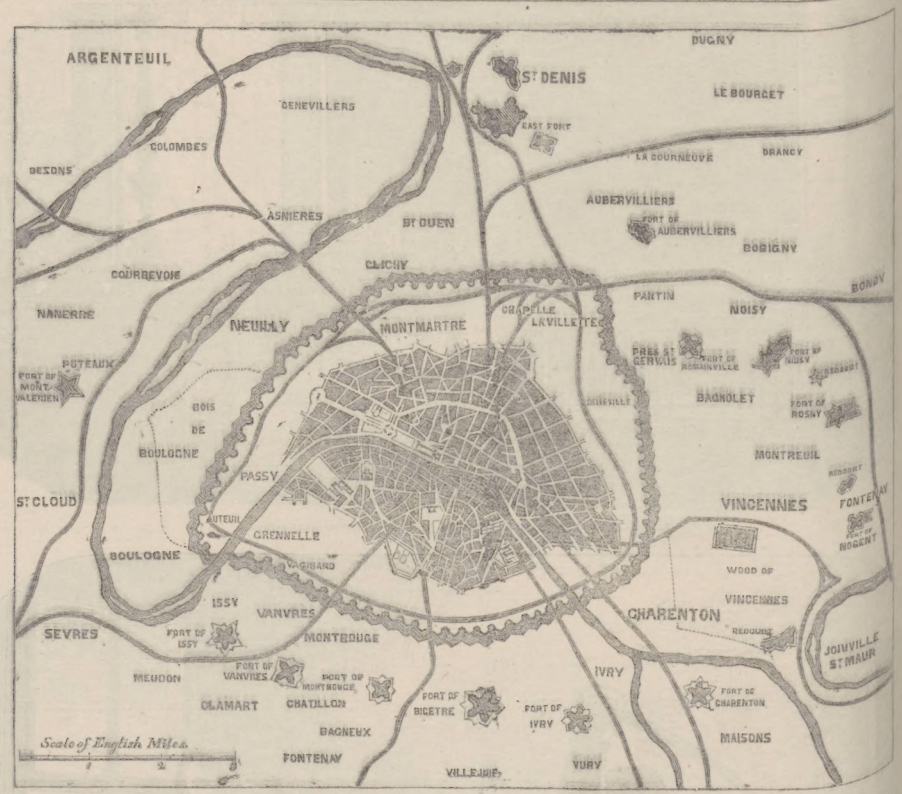
"A VERSAILLES!"

THE RETURN TO PARIS.



PRISONERS OF THE PARIS COMMUNISTS IN THE CONCIERGERIE

DEATH OF GUSTAVE FLOURENS, ONE OF THE PARIS INSURGENT LEADERS.



PLAN OF THE PARIS FORTIFICATIONS.

France and Germany.

THE PARIS REVOLUTION.

THE ABOVE PLAN

will enable the reader to realise the relative positions of the rival forces of the loyal and insurgent troops, who were on Good Friday, according to an "Occasional Correspondent" of the *Times*, face to face as follows:—

Like the Thames, the Seine meanders in a hollow between two ranges of higher ground. As Harrow, Hampstead, and Highgate are to Sydenham, Wimbledon, and Richmond, so are the rising grounds on each side of this river. As a spectator at Campden-hill can see the Crystal Palace when smoke permits, so a spectator at the Trocadéro, looking southwards, can see the hights of Meudon and Clamart, and the forts of Issy, Vanvres, and Montrouge. These forts are about 6000 metres from the Trocadéro; and Meudon and Clamart are about 8000 metres from them.

The political geography of the revolution may be thus applied to London:—The Reds are at the Mansion House; their army is in ruined forts about Clapham; the other army is about Sydenham and Wimbledon; the other Government is at Richmond; and the invaders are at Highgate and Harrow and all over the north. Spectators are at the waterworks at Campden-hill, looking south. A cloud of white smoke rises about Clapham, another smaller cloud appears about the Crystal Palace, and a spectator remarks,

"That is a bomb which explodes on the plateau of Clamart."

A white puff rises among some trees on a rise to the right towards Wimbledon; a cloud appears above the fort at Clapham, and two reports follow as fast as sound can travel after light.

"Behold the Château of Meudon, which has cast an *obus* into Issy! . . . The spectators at the Trocadéro yesterday heard firing behind them, and some ran over the hill to see what was up. There is no Valérien near London, but the place of it would be about Hanwell. Valérien was blazing northwards, at Neuilly or at something else, and some other place in that direction, and some unknown battery close to the Arch of Triumph was shooting as hard as ever it could. The Bois de Boulogne seemed to be full of sharpshooters, and every now and then the crash of the mitrailleuse joined in with the blaze of a platoon.

THE ACTIONS BEFORE PARIS

being illustrated in our present Number, we may repeat that the lamentable collision between the troops of order and the National Guards of disorder originated in an attempt made by the latter, on Sunday week, to induce the Line to fraternise at Puteaux and Courbevoie. This failed, the Line charging the Nationals; and on Monday the Commune decided to attack Versailles. The order was obeyed by about 100,000 National Guards, who marched out in three huge columns, under Henry, Gustave Flourens, and Bergeret, down the Châtillon, Meudon, and Sèvres roads, to capture Versailles, disperse the Assembly, and enable the residuum of Red members to decree the Democratic Republic. Bergeret took the route past Valérien, and appears to have been full of hope, believing that the commandant of the great fort had been gained and that the troops would fraternise. The commandant, however, had either changed his mind or had been changed, and he opened a somewhat slow fire, which struck a double panic into the Red battalions. In the first place, they were afraid of the shells; and in the second, with the incurable suspiciousness of Parisians, they believed they had been sold. Thousands fled, but a body, probably of picked men, under Bergeret himself, pressed forward, undaunted by the fire, and reached Sèvres, where, as we understand most contradictory and absurd accounts, they were brought to a stand by the Versailles troops, who, instead of fraternising, opened fire. Gustave Flourens, moving by a more southerly route, reached Meudon, and was there stopped and himself killed; while Henry, on the direct southern road, occupied Châtillon till the Wednesday, when he was driven out and taken prisoner by a charge of the Bretons.

ON GOOD FRIDAY

the most severe fighting was at Neuilly. Though the Versailles troops had on one or two occasions previously carried the barricades which defended the Bridge of Neuilly, they had for some inexplicable reason given them up again, and the Federalists were not slow to retake possession of the positions. On the Thursday "General" Bergeret announced that he could hold the bridge against a whole army but on Good Friday the Versailles troops [illegible] chiefly by the use of artillery. Further, they [illegible] the whole space up to the Maillot Gate, and [illegible] threw shells over the enceinte. It is stated [illegible] Arc de Triomphe was struck. On Saturday [illegible] there was no appearance of the Constitutionalist troops on the Bridge of Neuilly, and a column of National Guards went out to reconnoitre. [illegible] they had got within 200 yards of the barricade, a heavy artillery fire was opened on them, and they hastily retreated, leaving many killed and wounded. Subsequently, the Constitutionalists threw up works within the Maillot Gate, to prevent the National Guards from mustering there for the defence of that position. The following are the terms in which [illegible] the late Good Friday sitting, M. Picard announced the success of the day to the National Assembly:—

"The Government has this instant received a despatch, which we hasten to impart to you. The military operations at the Pont du Neuilly [illegible] ing have fully succeeded. The barricade was [illegible] Our losses were considerable (Great sensation). General Montauban, whose despatch I am reading, says he is master of the position, and that he is at this moment executing works at the [illegible] corps of Engineers and the Line behaved [illegible] most brilliant manner. The General says [illegible] slightly wounded in the arm; General Paulze [illegible] wounded, and so is his aide-de-camp. [illegible] my positions.' This is a success, gentlemen [illegible] civil war such successes are doubly painful; [illegible] theless, our cause is so great that the Assembly [illegible] gladly acknowledge the courage of our army. [illegible] accept the news of this success, not as a triumph, but at the same time with profound gratitude [illegible] who have laid down their lives for the [illegible] (Applause; a buzz of conversation lasting [illegible] long time.)

It may here be stated that on Monday the [illegible] of General Besson and Peclot, who died [illegible] wounds received in the attack on the [illegible] Neuilly, were performed at the Versailles [illegible]

While the attack was going on west of Paris [illegible] was some artillery firing on the south, and [illegible] two sharp brushes. An attempt was made [illegible] Friday morning to surprise the Constitutionalist position at Châtillon. A column started from [illegible] Sawn from the trenches in front of Fort [illegible] they had not gone far before artillery opened on [illegible]

and they speedily fell back. Further eastward another effort was made by the insurgents; but it, too, came to nothing. In spite of this, however, the Commune and its organs published despatches speaking of successful sorties, and insisting that the Constitutionalists were being beaten back.

FIGHTING

was resumed on Saturday by an attack, by Mont Valérien and the Versailles batteries situated on the bridge of Neuilly, upon the gate of Maillot. The shells swept down the Avenue de la Grande Armée, and several fell beyond the Arc de Triomphe in the Champs Elysées. Many persons were killed and wounded, and several houses damaged. The shelling has been continued; and other engagements are reported. A flotilla of gun-boats is going up the Seine from Havre to assist in the operations against the Paris insurgents. In case the Government troops force the gate of Maillot and enter the city the Commune is preparing to give them a warm reception; they have placed cannons and munitions of war in the court of the Palais Royal, concentrated a large body of troops in the Place Vendôme, and a battalion with two guns has been placed in front of the Madeleine. There was also an engagement on Saturday at Villejuif, and several skirmishes in different parts, from Bagneux to Billancourt. The southern forts took part in the contest, the Versailles batteries returning their fire. The Commune had issued a decree calling out all men from nineteen to forty: they have ordered every citizen to report himself to the Mairie, and put a guard on the railway stations, to prevent any Frenchman going out. Marshal MacMahon has been appointed commander-in-chief of the troops of Versailles, who are formed into an army of reserve under General Vinoy, and an entire army of three corps under Generals Ladmirault, Cissy, and Dubarail. The Commune has suppressed the rank of General in the National Guard, and has appointed Ladislas Dombrecki Commandant of Paris, in lieu of General Bergeret.

M. THIERS ON THE SITUATION.

M. Thiers sent the following circular to the prefects on Sunday:—

"The state of things has not materially changed during the last three days. At Marseilles the disarmament of the National Guard continues without any disturbances arising. At Toulouse an attempt was made to erect a battery, but it was captured by a single detachment of troops. Everywhere else in France order prevails. The insurgents of Paris have returned to Asnières, but were again driven away. Neuilly. Their conduct has been admirable. The Government is firmly carrying out its plans, without in any way being uneasy as to the result. Honest citizens may have confidence in the future.—THIERS."

A Versailles telegram of the same date says the statements which have appeared that the Prussians had informed the Versailles Government that they would intervene should the insurrection not be put down by the 15th inst. are incorrect, and the statement of M. Jules Favre having gone on Sunday to the Prussian head-quarters is equally inexact. The *Indépendance Belge* publishes a letter from Versailles which asserts that M. Jules Favre will shortly proceed to Berlin, in order to hasten the final conclusion of peace and reassure the Federal Chancellor with regard to the intentions of the French Government.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

The front Engraving of "Fiction and Fact at Paris" sufficiently shows the mountebank nature of the Communist Government, which intrusted the lives of so many thousand men to so incompetent a commander as Bergeret. It is stated authoritatively that "General" Bergeret has since been placed under arrest because he has not been successful as a General. Cluseret has complained many times of the way in which his orders are contravened, and the National Guards are worried with unnecessary duties and waste of ammunition. If anybody in authority sees a small advantage to be gained, instantly he bents a drum and orders the Guards forward. In this spirit Bergeret had transgressed Cluseret's express orders. When called to task he disputed Cluseret's authority, and it is for this, even more than for failure in battle, that he has had to give up his command to Dombrowski, who was Garibaldi's right-hand man.

The death of Gustave Flourens, another insurgent leader, is thus described by the *Gaulois*:—"Towards four p.m. the Gendarmes of the 2nd Regiment were making a search in the village of Chaton, when a shot was fired from the window of an auberginte, named Chaton. Chaton, situated about 150 metres from the bridge at Chaton. The gendarmes broke into the house, and one of them ascended to the first floor and received a bullet wound in the shoulder at the moment he was entering one of the rooms. It was Flourens who fired upon him at close quarters. Captain Desmarest then threw himself upon Flourens, and cleft open his head with a sabre blow. Flourens and his aide-de-camp, Pisani, who was wounded at the same time, had with them disguises, which they were preparing to assume at the moment they were surprised."

The Conciergerie, of which we give a glimpse on another page, is one of the most interesting places in Paris just now. It was Danton who compared the Revolution to Saturn devouring his own children. Parisians have improved upon this in the year of grace 1871—the Revolution devours its own fathers. No less a personage than Citoyen Assi has been arrested, and put under lock and key, by order of the virtuous Felix Pyat. It is said that Citoyen Assi, considering that the game was up, was preparing for a rapid move, when his intentions were betrayed by a young lady whose amiability made her very popular with many other members of the Commune.

Another of the curious features of Paris at present is the predominance of the female element in public agitation. The other day, on the Place de la Concorde, a respectable-looking old man was set upon by a score or so of harpies, who had him arrested by some rowdy National Guards. They shouted "C'est un Sedan!" implying thereby, no doubt, that he was a Bonapartist. These amiable young persons, whose appearance led one to suppose they had long since been practically adepts in one branch of Communism, were very anxious to pitch him into the river. Later, a crowd of female furies were with great difficulty prevented from tearing to pieces a fine, soldierly-looking man, arrested near the Porte Maillot on suspicion of being a gendarme in plain clothes. His chief crime appeared to be wearing gloves and a clean shirt. The correspondent who witnessed these occurrences also saw a band of damsels all forlorn going up towards the Porte Maillot, wearing the ambulance badge round their arms, and carrying a red flag. "A Versailles!" was the cry—a cry likely to be as futile as the cry of "A Berlin!" which ushered in the late war. How terrible the scenes are on the road back to Paris from Versailles may be imagined when we are told that the ambulance service is shockingly administered. At the Hôtel de Ville (says the correspondent of the *Telegraph*) there is an exhibition the like of which has probably never been seen before. Here it is that all particulars may be obtained of those who have been killed or wounded during the different engagements. In the long corridors you meet everywhere, wandering purposelessly, with handkerchiefs to eyes, the female relatives of the fallen. But not even this sight brings home the horror of the struggle so forcibly as another that meets your eyes. This is a series of photographs—photographs of the dead whom no one has yet recognised. Side by side with these are the number of the regiment to which the dead belonged, and that of the coffins in which their remains have been inclosed.

Pillage still goes on in Paris. Notre Dame has been sacked.

The insurgents have sent a message from Paris that unless a million francs (£40,000) be paid as a ransom for the Archbishop he will be killed. The Curé of the Madeleine has died, at the Préfecture, of congestion of the brain. The Curé of St. Eustache, who had been arrested, was released on Saturday night. On the following morning he performed high mass in his church. When the Curé ascended the pulpit an extraordinary scene immediately ensued. The men waved their hats, the women their handkerchiefs—a most enthusiastic welcome! Not a word was spoken.

EASTER OUTING OF THE VOLUNTEERS

AT BRIGHTON.

THE annual volunteer review was held on Easter Monday at Brighton, and had all the advantages which a fine manœuvring ground by the sea, easy access to it, and glorious weather can give. Fewer volunteers were on the ground than have gathered there on one or two Easter Mondays in previous years; but there was no lack of enthusiasm among the 24,000 men who mustered in the ranks, and their improved discipline and steadiness under arms were remarkable. If the manœuvring showed that much remains to be done to make the volunteers an effective force, one cannot help the conclusion, after witnessing this twelfth Easter Monday review, that it is not the fault of the men themselves, and that they not only supply good material, but would willingly submit to any reasonable conditions which might be imposed for the purpose of moulding them into such a force. It is for the Government to come forward with the efficient scheme of organisation which is imperatively needed, if Englishmen are (we quote Mr. Goschen) "to maintain the honour and glory of England at the same height as which it has been held through many generations."

THE ARRIVAL

of the volunteers at Brighton on Easter Monday was marked by the usual demonstrations of welcome on the part of the townspeople, whose purses had been filled and whose hearts had been gladdened by a profitable host of riflemen, who began their holiday at London-by-the-Sea as early as Good Friday. Having marched into the town from the railway station, most of the volunteers bivouacked, as usual, in the green inclosures, or steynes, which form so pretty a feature in the heart of Brighton; while others, including the London Scottish, the Inns of Court, and the Post Office corps, occupied the grounds of the Pavilion—the once Royal residence, which seemed to Sydney Smith as though St. Paul's had visited the seaside, and had there had a litter of cupolas. Arms being piled, breakfast here became a pressing question. It almost seemed as if Brighton had been a legitimate prize of war, and breakfast was a matter of requisition! So much boiled beef and ham, so many eggs and rashers, with tea and coffee to indiscretion, and six cigars per man! The residents on each side of the Steyne, particularly the female residents, from their balconies and windows looked so bright and beaming that it might possibly have been almost a pleasure to them to have been requisitioned. However, due provision had been made by most of the corps without enforced service of this kind; and in their pleasant resting-places volunteers of all arms had such a substantial meal as was warranted by the heavy work to follow it. At ten o'clock

THE FIRST MOVE

was made. A field-gun on the Parade just outside the Royal Albion Hotel was fired by way of signal. The artillery moved off towards the review ground, and were gradually followed by the various corps in the order assigned to them. The route lay along a portion of the Marine Parade, which was thronged with spectators, and thence up Bedford-street. Each balcony and window had its tenants; and gay dresses, scarlet cloth, flags of all colours and all nations made the way as bright and cheerful as ever the Marine Parade can have been since first it skirted the English Channel. Prince Arthur, in his place in the suite of Major-General the Prince of Saxe-Weimar, was eagerly looked for, and easily distinguished as he rode by in his dark rifle uniform, and heartily greeted. Many of the better-known corps of volunteers also were warmly greeted as they marched by and breasted the steep and toilsome, and generally rather dusty, ascent which leads to the racecourse.

THE MARCH PAST

has for the public considerable attractions—ladies, indeed, avowing that "they understand it better than all that firing and counter-marching in the distance." Twelve o'clock was the hour for commencing; and Lieutenant-General Sir Hope Grant, G.C.B., commanding-in-chief, took his position opposite the flagstaff with military punctuality. The first to pass were the light cavalry of the Hon. Artillery Company—creditable as far as they went, but a mere handful in point of numbers. And here the question may be suitably asked, How comes it that, amid a nation of foxhunters, with horses so abundant that they are bought eagerly for all the foreign markets, volunteer cavalry, with a few brilliant exceptions—the Hants Cavalry and the Duke of Manchester's, for instance—has never taken root in England? In the first brigade of the first division of infantry there also marched the 1st City of London Volunteers, always well received and justifying their reception, and two regiments from the Tower Hamlets, perhaps the most fruitful of all the metropolitan recruiting-grounds. The 2nd Brigade of the same division contained no less than two companies of volunteers from Lancashire, whose presence was warmly applauded. In the third brigade a novel appearance was imparted to one battalion, the 20th Middlesex, Lieutenant-Colonel Malet commander, by the fact that the men had rolled their capes into a coil, and wore them over one shoulder, after the Prussian fashion. The first impression produced by coats slung in this manner is that there must be a clumsiness attendant upon it in the handling of the rifle; but the fashion doubtless is more comfortable than it looks, for half a dozen other regiments followed the same plan, one of them adopting the distinctive compromise of retaining the flat fold of the cloaks for the men and introducing the long roll for the officers only. There had been a confident rumour afloat that Colonel Money, of the 6th Tower Hamlets, would be accompanied by one of the sons of Garibaldi; but the statement was not justified by the result, for the name did not appear in the printed lists of the General's aide-de-camps, and the historic "red shirt" was not represented during the day's movements. Another name with which rumour had made free was that of the ex-Emperor of the French; but, when traced back to its source, the only foundation discoverable was that some foreign gentleman, name unknown, "from Chiselhurst," had taken apartments at one of the hotels, and the rooms, it was added, subsequently remained unoccupied. Cheering along the whole line gave warning of the approach of the missing fourth division, and with it of the Prince, who, with his slight frame and in sombre Rifle uniform, might have passed unnoticed, but for the strong family likeness to his elder brother. Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, as Major-General commanding the division, having saluted, reined in his horse and took up a position on the right of Sir Hope Grant, while the troops under his orders marched past. Prince Arthur, on the other hand, did not approach the flagstaff at all, but, as junior officer in attendance, placed himself at the extremity of the line of mounted officers, on the opposite side from Sir H. Grant. The march past did not conclude till half-past one. As a whole, and bearing in mind the recent innovations in drill and the alterations that have been made even in the most trivial words of command, the marching was, for the most part, highly creditable.

THE SHAM FIGHT.

The operations of the field-day commenced at a quarter past two o'clock. The long delay at the Grand Stand had afforded ample time for the regiments destined for the distant heights to reach their positions, and accordingly, as soon as the later arrivals had marched to their appointed stations, the first gun was fired and the review commenced. The plan which Sir Hope Grant, having viewed the ground and conferred with volunteer officers, finally

BRIGHTON VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

SHOOTING FOR PRIZES.

VOLUNTEERS MUSTERING.

THE SHAM FIGHT.

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VOLUNTEERS MUSTERING.

THE SHAM FIGHT.

determined upon was this—That a force should be supposed to have embarked at Dieppe, and, eluding the vigilance of the Channel Fleet, to have landed above Kemp Town, near the toll-gate and east of the coastguard station. In place, however, of making the most of their time, occupying Brighton, seizing the principal inhabitants as hostages, and complying with all the other usages of modern warfare, the enemy, in a more chivalric spirit, marches out to attack a rival force inland, occupying the reverse slopes of the ridges between Newmarket-hill and Rottingdean. As a necessary consequence, this soon carries them beyond the view of the spectators, who, as benevolent neutrals, occupy the long line of the racecourse; but there is room enough and to spare for the operations in the 5000 acres which have been secured for the purpose by the town's committee, who annually make themselves liable for about £600, by way of guarantee against those injuries to crops, &c., which were recently described by the Commander-in-Chief in the House of Lords as inseparable from all military operations in this country conducted on a large scale. For some time the battle was confined to the skirmishers, who pushed boldly, almost too boldly, into the enemy's territory, walking fast and far away from their supports. By degrees, however, these were gradually pushed forward, marking the ploughed lands and cultivated patches with broad stripes of red, and grey, and black. The attack lasted fully an hour and a half, and was carried up nearly to High Barn before the defenders rallied in sufficient strength to push the invaders back again, and even then their second line, coming to the support of the first, continued the contest for a time. The attacking force also had the advantage of effective cavalry support, the heads of the Inniskilling Dragoons, whose helmets, swords, and accoutrements glittering in the sun and peeping out here and there from the gorse in the hollow, where they dismounted, formed a striking and picturesque central point in the combat that was carried on over a wide surface of undulating downs. Their services came even more strongly into request when the attacking force was gradually drawn back upon the shelter of Brighton, which at first it had despised, and a stand was made at every point calculated to afford a good defensive position. A certain amount of vividness and reality was given to the picture when, at two or three points, the furze caught fire and rose into lofty sheets of flames, burning fiercely for half an hour together before exhausting the available material. The smoke arising was so dense and sweeping that it might easily have stood for the burning villages of actual warfare.

Among the officers active in carrying orders to and fro was his Royal Highness Prince Arthur. When recognised he was received with a cheer, but his dark uniform and the speed of his horse soon lost him to view and extricated him from situations which, however complimentary in intention, were not altogether in keeping with the duties of the moment. Some

CASUALTIES

have to be reported. One volunteer fell down, and died a few minutes afterwards, presumably from heart disease intensified by over-exertion. Another fell and injured his kneecap rather seriously. A civilian was kicked in the leg by a horse, and a boy was ridden down and severely injured. The necessary amount of galloping to and fro by aides-de-camp in the midst of a throng of spectators who recognised no military "lines," makes one surprised that such accidents were not more numerous.

THE RETURN TO TOWN,

however, was accomplished with all the regularity which had marked the journey down, and Mr. J. F. Knight, the general manager, who, with W. J. Williams, personally superintended the reception and dispatch of trains, had the satisfaction of knowing that the enormous traffic of the day was not marred by any accident whatever.

THE RIFLE AND CARBINE PRIZE-SHOOTING

was, so far as the volunteers were concerned, the great feature of Saturday, which was more than ordinarily attractive (not only to the competitors themselves, but to outsiders interested in the merits of rifles), the rifle contest being carried on for the first time with the snider.

The meeting was held at the butts in Sheepcote Valley; and the prizes offered were of the aggregate value of £335, including £100 given by Mr. James Ashbury. Notwithstanding that a strong north-easterly wind was blowing right across the range the whole day, excellent scores were made, Private Wyatt, a Queen's prize-winner, of the London Rifle Brigade, gaining the first honours at 200 yards, by a score of 17 points, with five shots; while Corporal Kethro, 4th Surrey, won the 500-yards contest with a score of 18, and also figured well at the 200-yards target.

A PRUSSIAN OFFICER ON THE VOLUNTEERS.

The *Daily News*' "special," after describing the sham fight, added:—"Fresh from the national army of the greatest military nation in the world, I am glad and proud to recognise the fact that we, too, have a national army in fact, and not in mere empty name. It may be interesting to state how the doings of to-day struck a member of that national army to which I first made reference. A Prussian officer was my companion on the field, and he was loud in praise (which I know must have been sincere) of the manner in which British volunteers did the work that was prescribed for them. It may be added, in conclusion, that this year staff officers of gaudy plumage and incoherent language were restrained in great measure from baulking the good sense of volunteer commanding officers, and that the experiment of leaving the latter to lean in a greater proportion on their own good sense and apprehension of the position was attended with the happiest results."

Easter Amusement.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Ballet of Aladdin.
COVENT GARDEN.—Royal Italian Opera. Half-past Eight.
DRURY LANE.—First Night of her Majesty's Opera. Half-past Eight.
HAYMARKET.—Wolf and Lamb—Fairy Comedy, The Palace of Truth—Uncle's Will—Farce. Seven.
GAIETY.—Peter, the Shipwright—Offenbach's Malade. Seven. Wednesday and Saturday Afternoon Performance at Two.
OLYMPIC.—Poppleton's Predicaments—New Fairy Play: Perfect Love.—Nal'. Seven.
ADELPHI.—Down in a Balloon—Notre Dame—Quicksilver Dick. Seven.
PRINCESS'S.—Ballet Farce—Faust and Marguerite—The Man in the Moon. Seven.
PRINCE OF WALES'S.—Farce: Cut off with a Shilling—Robertson's Comedy: Ours. Half-past Seven.
VAUDEVILLE.—Chiselling—Two Roses—Burlesque: Macbeth. Seven.
ST. JAMES'S.—Rival Rumeo—The Actress by Daylight—Two Thorns. Seven.
ROYALTY.—The Married Bachelor—Behind a Mask—Diamond Cut Diamond. Half-past Seven.
STRAND.—In Three Volumes—Up in the World—Burlesque: Isle Prentice. Seven.
COURT (Sloane-square).—Farce—Comedy: Randall's Thumb—New Fairy Play. Seven.
QUEEN'S.—Farce—Joan of Arc. Seven.
GLOBE.—To Re-open next Monday. Opera Bouffe.
LYCEUM.—French Plays. Eight.
CHARING CROSS.—French Plays. Eight.
GOLBORN AMPHITHEATRE.—Acrobatic and Equestrian Entertainment. Saturday and Wednesday Afternoons at Half-past Two; Every Night at Half-past Seven.
SURREY.—King Lear, &c. Seven.
STANDARD.—Grand Duchess. Seven.
SADLER'S WELLS.—Drama. Seven.
ALFRED.—Drama, &c. Seven.
PHILHARMONIC.—Ballet, &c. Half-past Seven.
NEW EAST LONDON.—Drama and Farce. Seven.
BRITANNIA.—Drama and Farce. Seven.
VICTORIA.—Drama. Seven.
GRECIAN.—Farce. Seven.
POLYTECHNIC.—Pictorial Lecture on the War, &c. Open from Twelve to Five and from Seven till Ten.
GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, Regent-street.—Mr. and Mrs. Herman Read's Entertainment. Eight; Thursday and Saturday at three.
CHRISTY MINSTRELS, St. James's Hall. Every night at Eight; Wednesdays and Saturdays, Three and Eight.
ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, Regent's Park. Open daily.
AGRICULTURAL HALL.—Promenade Concerts. Blondin, &c. Eight.
EVANS'S MUSIC HALL, Covent-garden. Eight.
MADAME TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION, Baker-street. Open from Ten a.m. till Ten p.m.
ROYAL ALBERT HALL.—Occasional Concerts.
SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.—Monday, Tuesday, Saturday (free), Ten a.m. till Ten p.m.; Wednesday, Thursday, Friday (6d.), Ten till Five.
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, South Kensington Museum.—On Wednesdays and Saturdays from Twelve to Four between Michaelmas and Easter; from Easter till Michaelmas it is open till Five o'clock.
BRITISH MUSEUM, Great Russell-street.—Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at the year round, except the first seven days of January, May, and September.
MUSEUM OF PRACTICAL GEOLOGY, Jermyn-street, Regent-street.—Every day, except Friday, from Ten to Four. Penny Lectures every Monday evening at Eight.
NATIONAL GALLERY, Charing-cross.—Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays.
THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS (Winter Exhibition), 5, Pall-mall East.—Ten till Five.
EXHIBITION OF PICTURES BY BRITISH AND FOREIGN ARTISTS, 120, Pall-mall.—Half past Ten till Five o'clock.
NEW BRITISH INSTITUTION, 39, Old Bond-street.—Exhibition of Cabinet Pictures. Ten till Five.
CREMORNE GARDENS.—Dancing, &c.
WOOLWICH GARDENS.—Dancing, &c.
ROSHERVILLE.—"The Place to Spend a Happy Day."

A pleasing feature of the Easter holidays in these times is the growing tendency of holiday-makers to seek recreation in the national museums and picture-galleries which are opened free to the public. We are glad to say this was particularly observable on Easter Monday. Thus happy and intelligent family groups congregated in admiring thousands round the treasures of the National Gallery, British Museum, and the South Kensington Temple of Arts and Sciences. Fewer theatrical novelties than usual were forthcoming at Easter, it will be noticed, the majority of the managers holding their hand for a week or so.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

The "Palace of the People's Pleasures" well maintains its reputation under the joint management of Messrs. Grove and Wilkinson.

The special novelty introduced on Easter Monday was a grand pantomime ballet, founded on the well-known Eastern tale of "Aladdin; or, the Wonderful Lamp." The ballet, including actors, dancers, dresses, and "properties," were of the Gaiety school, and, as they assembled under the skilled direction of Mr. John Hollingshead, it may be inferred that they came to Sydenham to win a success. It is a good while since we read "Aladdin," but we suspect that some little liberties have been taken with the text in order to fit it for the purposes of an Easter spectacle. The scene opens in the cottage of Aladdin's mother, and the old lady and her daughters are discovered making nets. Aladdin rushes in, leading a dark and dangerous-looking magician, whom he tells you in expressive pantomime he has just rescued from the sea. The Magician wants to get possession of the wonderful lamp, and a sudden thought strikes him that Aladdin can get it for him if he can only be induced to undertake the task. The Magician gives Aladdin a sleeping draught and sets him dreaming of a beautiful Princess and the lamp, mixed up together as the thing only can be done in dreams and Easter spectacles, and the result is that Aladdin is persuaded to accompany the Magician in search of the lamp. The lamp is found, but the finder wishes to keep it, and to the consequent war between Aladdin and the Magician we are indebted for all the splendid scenery, gorgeous costumes, and pretty dancing of the spectacle ballet. When Aladdin rubs the lamp he is master of the situation; makes love to incomparable Princesses, and builds palaces of unheard-of splendour. The whole affair is got up with wonderful taste and propriety, as well as splendour; the scenery is elaborate and well painted, and the costumes are of the highest order of Eastern magnificence. In the flying palace, just before it takes flight, there is a *tableau vivant* composed of hundreds of Court officials, soldiers, nymphs of the ballet, and jugglers, full of incident and character. The jugglers play tricks as good as to be in themselves an exhibition, and Monsieur Carlo dances in a manner worthy the stage of the Grand Opera. Contrasting the grim with the pretty and festive, there is a wonderful forest of monkeys, and a terrific dragon combat fought with great vigour and conscientiousness; and at last the spectacle finishes in the Temple of Light with a grand procession, ballet, and transformation scene. The number of visitors were considerably in excess of those on Easter Monday's return last year, and the various amusements provided in addition to the spectacle were much relished and applauded.

GAIETY.

This ever-attractive theatre offers fresh attractions. The new opera-drama could not be produced last Saturday, but scarcely less welcome was Mr. Sadler in the rôle of "Fra Diavolo," Auber's sparkling opera being produced with a perfection rivalling either opera-house. Those who love Offenbach's music—and who is there that does not?—were right glad to welcome the strains of this delightful work, now in the new African extravaganza, also produced on Saturday night. The story of "Malade" turns on the adventures of a sea-cook on the coast of Africa, who, by accident, has seen the face of the daughter of a local magnate, and, consequently, by the law of Fusti," is obliged to marry her or die. The alternative of marriage would be far from disagreeable, as the girl is pretty, but for the unfortunate circumstance that the poor sea-cook has already another wife. On the wedding morning his spouse turns up, comprehends the situation, smuggles away the bride, and takes her place. As she is disguised in a veil, the stratagem is not perceived till the ceremony is over. Consternation follows. The savages are outraged at the trick played the sea-cook—deemed guilty of the device—is about to be impaled, when he obtains as a last favour that they shall taste of his champagne. This pacifies his persecutors in good-humour for a time, and before their spirits have subsided the sailors of the ship in which our hero was cook rush in and deliver him from all peril. The piece was well put on the stage in one scene, the country palace, being a very beautiful picture indeed. The ballet is numerous and well trained. As to the acting, Mr. Stoyle contributed humorous as the sea-cook, while Miss Loseby played the best of the part of his wife. Miss Dolaro looked very well in her African costume as Oranooka, and her heavy father found an apt representative in Mr. Aynsley Cook.

"JOAN OF ARC,"

the play written by Mr. Tom Taylor to display the abilities of charming Mrs. Rousby afresh, was produced at the Queen's, on Easter Monday, with all the excellence of cast and scenic grandeur which have characterised Mr. E. Clifton's management. Mrs. Rousby as Joan of Arc, though taxed as much beyond her physical powers, gives character and force to her part and enlists the sympathies of the audience in her manifold triumphs and trials. She looks the heroine to the life, whether as maid militant or martyr; and her despair before her judges in the torture-chamber and final defiance of their wiles and works are depicted with that depth of tragic emotion which has already placed this actress in the foremost rank of her profession. With the exception of Charles part and the parts of Etienne de Vignolles, a Captain of Free Companions, and of Father Iaubert, Joan's confessor, there is not much attempt at delineation of character; the stage is crowded with voiceless figures circling round the court and camp of Charles VII., who, by-the-way, looks every inch a King as depicted by Mr. Harcourt. Etienne is played well by Mr. Rousby, who is far more at home as the rough, warm-hearted, but rough free-lancer than he was in the part of Elizabeth's gallant lover, Leicester. Isambard, at the hands of Mr. G. Rignold, leaves nothing to be desired. The scenery is admirably, the

and in keeping
what such armies of
have not been seen on the
Kean's management as
of the Families
e; and the coronation of
of Richmond probably
though
nce given to cycle-
y. Mr. Taylor has
termed the rose-coloured
A Comedy was produced
ling at Ten
the Lessee stated that
stores for

ADELPHI.

at the Adelphi com-
Mr. Crauford, entitled
The second piece is entitled
Opera Girl of Paris." It is
, in some respects,
Rigby's popular
, which it follows
subject, Miss Furtado
cralda; Mr. F. C. King
hero, that of Quasimodo; Mr.
(in some instances here), that of
ress of Notre Dame; and Mr.
of Captain Phœbus. Although
ion on the scenery, the
are by no means neglected.
its success on the strange
which it is acted,
in the adaptation he has
ic books and the weird
from the present
her seat on the stage,
of the audience, and
has remained to the
nearly to such enough for
, while her mother, the profess
ess, on the other side. Mr.
to the first time, was
portion of his audience, but
were favourable, and he ap-
from his trying way in which he
of Quasimodo. Mr.
not a finished performance
. The cast boasted
to him by his actions, or,
the terrible struggle
well described, and
with ample
Quasimodo
hearts into the
by Notre Dame, by Mr.
Almond. The piece was co-
with applause, and
called "Quelsaveur Dieu."

"ART AND MARGUERITE"

on Easter Monday,
have their audience
Man in the Right
play is so closely allied
, with which every-
that it is unnecessary to
of these young people
during the last seventeen
that it includes the com-
Mephistopheles, with the
Faust, in such parts
The scene, as usual, pleas-
the assumption and fall
Faust, and her
her angels. The
particularly applauded
Mr. Phelps;
attached to the
the character would
with that in which
suffer by his
followed the ex-
with fine colour,
pending
Mr. Kean.
Marguerite was
naughtiness more
Miss Rose
and very
absence of fair
action in the scene
and lacking in her
effectively, however,
was Miss Rose
Dame Martha. The
Mr. R. Power was
of a fair hour, with

"Freak of Fancy," by the author of "The Dragon of Wantley," called "The Man in the Moon; or, the Eagle's Flight." This is a very slight sketch, and is solely concerned with the fortunes of one Daniel O'Rourke, of whisky-drinking proclivities, who, in his pursuit of the hand of one Mary O'Connor, pays, or rather dreams that he pays, a visit to the moon on the back of an eagle. His flight through the air is made the opportunity of introducing a panorama painted by Mr. W. Telbin, representing some admirable features of Irish scenery, and a pretty ballet, which is performed by moonlight.

HOLBORN AMPHITHEATRE.

Changes in the programme are constantly made here; and the juveniles who visit the circus during the Easter holidays will find that their taste for daring horsemanship and broad fun has been very carefully studied. Dancers and acrobats perform time-honoured tricks on horses flat-saddled and bare-backed; trained steeds, well fed and well groomed, go through movements foreign to their nature; clowns play old jokes; and nothing is wanting in the recognised accompaniments of the ring except that compound essence of orange and sawdust, which was once an odour inseparable from establishments of this kind When, in addition to all these attractions, we find an equestrian goat, acrobatic monkeys, a lady gymnast who bounds, or is shot up, 25 ft., and turns a triple backward somersault; a clever troupe of performing dogs, three really clever clowns, and a couple of comic mules, it is scarcely surprising that amongst the many entertainments bidding for public patronage the Amphitheatre is able each holiday night to secure a crowded audience.

ALBERT HALL CONCERTS.

The magnificent hall which her Majesty has opened as to be used for an admirable purpose, to begin with. Lovers of music must have rejoiced to learn that the Sunday of Arts would inaugurate the Albert Hall with a series of six grand miscellaneous concerts in aid of a national building fund for music.

A NEW AMERICAN SONGSTRESS

made a most successful first appearance, at the Bow and Bromley Institute, lately, in conjunction with those established favourites Mdlle. Liebhart, Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Mdlle. Drasdil, Mr. Nelson Varley, M. Lemmens, M. Sainton, and other well-known names. The Americans are Miss Stetson. This charming young singer possesses a large, clear, and remarkably flexible soprano voice; and her finished and careful singing promise well for her future career. We believe that Miss Stetson has studied her art in the "old country." In any case, it is evident that she has studied well. Balfe's difficult cavatina, "Qui la voce" was well calculated to show off the powers of the debutante. Rather nervous during the opening symphony, Miss Stetson seemed to recover her self-possession before she had sung many bars of the lovely slow movement, which she gave with such good taste and feeling that it called forth a hearty burst of applause at the close. Her rendering of the quick movement that follows, replete with ornamentations and cadenzas, warmed the audience to enthusiasm, and Miss Stetson had to return to the platform to acknowledge a well-merited and genuine success. A new interest was given to Miss Philp's popular ballad "Lilli's Grave-Night," by the talented composer singing it herself in a most refined and sympathetic manner. M. Sainton's clarionet, a distinguished instrument, created also a great impression, by his spirited playing of Grandi's dashing song, "Qu'ils sont doux," and in the lively duet from "Lischen and Fritzchen," "Nous commes Amateurs," in which he was joined by Miss Philp. The concert was given in aid of the distressed French peasantry; and it must have been gratifying to the artistes, who freely gave their services on the occasion, to know that 2120 was handed to the *Daily News* fund, thanks to their exertions.

AGRICULTURAL HALL.

Pending the completion of considerable alterations at the Alhambra, consequent on Mr. Strange having obtained the Lord Chamberlain's licence for theatrical plays, that successful caterer for public amusement has opened the Agricultural Hall with an equestrian company, including all the best and smartest of the Alhambra. The ballet divertissement which gracefully terminates the farce of the Gaiété de Paris seemed to attract the same powerful attraction here. These performers appeared in their full, handsome costume, and, conducted by M. Paulus, played in spirited style a selection of overtures, marches, and valses, terminating with the "Marseillaise," which excited the vast audience to such a pitch of enthusiasm as to cause them to rise en masse and wave hats and handkerchiefs. In response to calls for an encore, the band gave "Rule Britannia," which evoked, if possible, more unbounded applause, and the "Marseillaise" had to be repeated. In addition to this rich instrumental treat, there was the usual performance by the company of 460 performers, under the able conduct of M. J. Rivière. A great additional feature of attraction was the re-appearance of Blondin, who went through his high-rope performance.

EXCLUSIVE, VERY IMPORTANT, RARE, AND VALUABLE are the properties of Lamplough's Pyretic Saline, curing the most headache, dizziness, skin, or biliary affections. Pleasant, palatable, and invigorating. Of all Chemists.—[ADVT.]

The Naturalist.

THE twenty-four thousand holiday-makers who visited the Zoological Society's Gardens on Easter Monday were, doubtless, not least interested in the diving and barking and oculatory performances of Adolphe Lecomte's agile

SEA-LION,

captured by that gallant French sailor at the Falkland Islands. It is a family of sea-lions at home that our Artist introduces us to this week. The male Falkland sea-lion resembles in no slight degree in the head and mane the king of the forest. He is, when full grown, about 10 ft. long; and, although not disposed to make an attack, is a most formidable antagonist to come upon unawares in the thick groves of the Tussac, where, particularly in the breeding season, he, with his family, may be found. The female is scarcely one half the size of the male, and is more gentle in disposition. In some of the smaller islands, generally covered with Tussac grass, the seals congregate in large numbers, called rookeries; and, to avoid the danger of attacking them under cover, the sealers set fire to the grass. Thereupon, the alarmed inhabitants scamper helter-skelter down to the sea, but are slain or captured en route: slain to provide ladies with sealskin jackets and muffs; captured, happily, sometimes to live a pleasant life in other climes, and to give entertainment to thousands, as in the case of M. Adolphe Lecomte's admirably docile pet at the "Zoo." "In this connection," as our American cousins phrase it, we may here note that the

NEWFOUNDLAND SEAL-FISHERY SEASON

has been successfully inaugurated. The steam-ship Walrus, which left the port of St. John's, Newfoundland, on March 1, returned on the 19th, with a full cargo of young seals (15,000), taken off the Funks Islands about a week before. The captain reports thirty sail of vessels as having been in the same ice in company with the Walrus, all of which were loaded and had borne up for home. The captain also stated that he had been for days surrounded by seals, as far as the eye could see, and predicts an unusually prosperous voyage. The weather during the seal-hunting expedition was very moderate, and the larger masses of ice lay along the shore, thus enabling the fleet to avoid the dangers which are generally encountered there. This, it is said, will be the earliest sealing season ever known in Newfoundland.

CRYSTAL PALACE AQUARIUM.

This new aquarium, which has been during the last few months in course of erection, was opened temporarily on Good Friday. Where nature is one of the elements of a calculation it is impossible to make predictions with absolute accuracy; and the calculations of the promoters have been somewhat defeated in regard to the sea water, which, though in the tanks, is not yet in the salubrious condition to vouch a few days more hard and growth of seaweed will make it. In the mean time, however, six of the largest tanks, containing nearly 250,000 gallons, have been copiously stocked with fresh water fish, from the monster pike to the milk minnow, and exciting the most curious forms of cels, eels, and flounders. When completed and in full working order, this aquarium will be by far the largest in existence, and will include collections and specimens of all the living fish and animals peculiar to the seas of Britain. This, it is confidently expected, will be accomplished by Whitsuntide.

NATURAL HISTORY AT THE LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

We are pleased to observe that there will be one novel and interesting feature in the Exhibition to be opened at South Kensington on May Day. Naturalists will gladly learn that there will be exhibited a collection of live representative specimens of animals, both foreign and British, whose wools are principally used in the woollen and worsted manufactures. Miss Burdett Coutts will contribute specimens from her celebrated flock of alpacas. The Zoological Society will send llamas, many of the wild species of which are yearly captured; while our English sheep will be represented, in such natural order, upon the lawn of Society's gardens by some of the most eminent breeders known to fame through the Royal Agricultural Society. In addition, a large assortment of llamas will be sent from Bremen, South America, and the Australian colonies.

"CUCKOO!"

On Easter Sunday a number of cuckoos landed themselves on Hastings and Bexhill on Crowhurst Common, and spread their wings in their wildness over the open fields, and then scattered and made off to the Surrey hills. These migratory birds have made their appearance in the south earlier than usual, their being rarely heard before the end of April.

TO CONSUMPTIVES.—A grateful father is desirous of sending by mail, free of charge, to all who wish it, a copy of the prescription by which his daughter was restored to perfect health from confirmed consumption, after having been given up by her physicians and despaired of by her father, a well-known physician, who has now discontinued practice. Sent free.—O. P. Brown, 2, Kirkstreet, Cavendish-sq., London. [ADVT.]

RECEIVING GOODS AT THE LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

A FAMILY OF SEA-LIONS.—SEE "THE NATURALIST."

CHILDREN'S HOME AT THE EAST END.

The Ladies' Column.

FASHIONS FOR APRIL.

(From "Le Follet.")

THE SEASON

promises to be more brilliant than any that have gladdened the hearts of our readers for several years, and the toilettes in course of preparation bid fair to do full justice to its festivities. Now that the overplus of pouffs and other exaggerations have passed away, we seem to have arrived at a much more simple, and therefore elegant, style of dress. We hardly think costumes—that is, dress, mantle, and under skirt alike—will be done away with this season, as threatened: the style is really too good, and prevents ladies from running into eccentricities they might otherwise be inclined to indulge in.

EVENING DRESSES

will be made long, either demi-train or very long, according to the occasion for which they are intended. The trains are cut squarer than last month—that is, more material is left the full length of the back, and the sides a little more accentuated. We think this a very great improvement on the gradual slope to almost a point at the back.

Very many silk dresses will be made with the manteau de cour and small tablier, only showing the lower part of the front of the under skirt. This style will have great success, and be more useful than ever, as a light-coloured silk train, either allowed to fall or looped up, will look charming over flounced muslin under skirts, or, if the dress is desired to be less light, over black flounced silk. Flounces in a variety of dispositions will be very much worn; and, if lace was so much in favour in the winter, it will be still more so this season.

Black silk dresses will be very well worn trimmed with white tarlatane plaitings and black lace. We have seen one with black tarlatane very full ruches and white lace that had a very elegant and recherché effect.

THE MATERIALS

for toilets are more varied and prettier than ever, and there has never been so great a variety of colours and shades. Those most in favour will be, of course, more delicate in tint than those worn in the winter. We have seen some lovely shades of pearl grey, mauve, green, and the most delicate tones of bois colour, in very many materials; but in none do they appear to so great an advantage as the very favourite and fashionable Danish silk-finished alpacas. This material promises to be a very great success. It has all the appearance of the very best foulard, without its disadvantages; is very wide and reversible, and makes the most charming demi-toilettes. Under muslin or grenadine it has all the appearance of very good silk.

BONNETS

are not to be worn quite so high as formerly. The trimming is still worn on the crown, which gives the appearance of height, though the shapes themselves are lower.

There is no end to the variety of shapes in

HATS

We have seen several for this season of coloured straw, grey being the most récherché. For more dressy occasions they will be made of lace or silk.

FEATHERS

will be very fashionable, either for hats or bonnets; indeed, we have seen some that appeared to be entirely composed of these favourite ornaments, and had a very distingué effect.

TUNICS

are worn very much draped, but not so bouffante, as formerly; they are much longer in the back than in the front, and are not plaited or gathered at the seams, but fastened on the wrong side by strings or patent hooks and eyes, so that, when not required for wear, the drapery can be let down, and the tunic folded. This is of great advantage, as it preserves the appearance of newness in the plaiting.

FRINGE

of all kinds is more fashionable than ever, and, headed by pinked or frayed ruchings, makes the lightest and most elegant trimming. Points are gradually coming into great favour for bodices. Two small ones in front, one a little larger at each side, and two deep and wide at the back, is the very last and most distingué fashion for bodices. Intended also for outdoor wear, of course the small basque in front, increasing in depth towards the back, is more suitable and elegant, as the simple points do not constitute a sufficient finish to the corsage for the purpose.

THE CHILDREN'S NURSERY AT STEPNEY

affords our Artist a subject for a pleasing Illustration of woman's work in London. This *crèche*, situated at 16, Stepney-causeway, owes its origin to a few charitable ladies belonging to the Society of Friends. Mrs. Hilton, who fills the post of lady superintendent, has converted the house into a child's home, replete with comforts that mothers in affluent circumstances might well envy. The wonder is that in our large towns, especially in the manufacturing districts, where numbers of children are every week dosed to death with narcotic abominations administered to keep them quiet while their mothers and elder sisters are at work, these conveniences, so common in France and Belgium, have not long ago found firm footing. This Stepney *crèche* is modelled as far as possible after the well-known institution of the same kind in Brussels. There are two rooms. In the lower one, babies old enough to sit upright, to the number of forty, are accommodated with tiny chairs, toys on the Kindergarten system, swings, and food suitable alike for their growing bodies and opening minds. The room, as all rooms under Quaker superintendence must of necessity be, is the picture of neatness and home. In an upper room, some thirty charming swing cots are ranged round the walls for the accommodation of infants who have not yet found their feet. These cots, which are almost sumptuously fitted up with furniture, linen, feeding-bottle, and washing appliances, have been presented by benevolent ladies and gentlemen—sometimes in memory of children of their own who have died. Amongst such donors are members of the Buxton, Gurney, and Barclay families, Mr. Morley, M.P., and Messrs. Huntley and Palmer.

It requires nothing but a visit to No. 16, Stepney-causeway to become acquainted with the *crèche* system better than by any written or spoken words; and we should recommend all ladies who deplore the unfortunate infant life of so many London children to pay that visit. In an institution of this description, designed to tend and feed infants and young children while their mothers are at work, great care must, of course, be taken to prevent imposition. The incredibly small sum of one penny per child is charged for the really poor children, but more if the circumstances of the parents permit it. The institution is under strict medical inspection, and a well-conducted system of visitation secures its directors from being imposed upon by unworthy parents.

WEST-END DRESSMAKERS.

A correspondent states, with reference to the Workshops Regulation Act, 1867, which provides, among other things, that no woman shall be employed for more than twelve hours, with intervals amounting to an hour and a half for meals, &c.; that no woman shall be employed after nine o'clock at night or after two o'clock on Saturday; and that no woman shall be employed on Sunday, that at a Court dressmaker's establishment at the West-End, where nearly twenty women are employed, every one of the above provisions is systematically violated, and that for some months past no inspector has entered the house.

WOMEN JURORS IN AMERICA.

The term of the Court at Laramie, Wyoming, at which some women jurors served, closed on the 16th ult.

JUDGE HOWE,

in adjourning it, said that the strictly honest, impartial, and capable manner in which the jury had discharged their duties merited the highest compliment the Court could bestow, and would also receive the thanks and gratitude of the entire community; that he was prepared to indorse, fully and unqualifiedly, the excellent results that spring from the influence and presence of women in the jury-box; and that he had not been able, with the closest observation, to detect the least objection or unfitness in woman to serve in that capacity. On the contrary, he had reasons to believe that the introduction of her refining and humanising influence marked a new and improved epoch in the administration of justice.

THE WOMAN'S VOTE BILL

comes on for second reading in the House of Commons on May 3. The leading advocates of the measure fortify their case by quoting the following opinion of

MR. DISRAELI ON THE QUESTION,

delivered by him in a speech on Parliamentary Reform, in April, 1866:—

"I observe that, in a debate that recently took place, not only in another place, but another country, on the suffrage, some ridicule was occasioned by a gentleman advocating the rights of the other sex to the suffrage; but, as far as mere abstract reason is concerned, I should like to see anybody in this House who is a follower of the hon. gentleman get up and oppose that claim. I say that, in a country governed by a woman—where you allow women to form part of the other estate of the realm—peeresses in their own right, for example—where you allow a woman not only to hold land, but to be a lady of the manor and hold legal courts—where a woman by law may be a churchwarden and overseer of the poor—I do not see, where she has so much to do with the Church and State, on what reasons, if you come to right, she has not a right to vote."

ANOTHER FASHION FOR THE HAIR.

It has been generally supposed that only in a civilised country could such a barbarous fashion of dressing the hair prevail as that by which young ladies condemn themselves to bear on their heads those enormous burdens called chignons. It appears, however, from the correspondence relating to Mr. Forsyth's mission to Yarkund that there is an old lady of high position in a very out-of-the-way spot who has discovered and adopted, if possible, a more painful and inconvenient style of head-dress than that which excites so much sympathy at home.

A Tartar who had returned from Kuldja related at Fort Vernoë that he had seen this Kulmak ruler proceeding to an interview with the chief of the Taranchis. Her hair, he said, hung in long tresses down her back. They were so heavy with gold coins and other precious ornaments that they had to be supported by two men as she walked. It might be premature as yet to follow the example of the old lady of Dzungaria Proper; but there can be no doubt that banknotes might be used as curpose with the most pleasing effect, and that any young lady appearing with her head thus adorned would not suffer from any lack of admirers.

Sports and Pastimes.

TO-DAY'S FIXTURES.

SATURDAY, April 15.—Liverpool Hunt Club (Hoylake) Meeting. Bromley Private Races. Gun Club First Spring Handicap. London Athletic Club—Challenge Cups. London Swimming Club Athletic Sports. Upton Park Football Club Sports. Pedestrian Sweepstakes, 600 yards, Royal Oak Park, Manchester.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORLAND WRESTLING.

The wrestling at the Agricultural Hall on Good Friday was, as a whole, of a very superior character, and the final falls for each event were especially interesting and well contested. In the contest for the London 11-stone prize the two men last left in were Matthew Mein, of Burgh, and William Holliday, of Westlington. Mein won the first of the three falls, but the second and third were gained by Holliday, who, like the victors in the preceding events, was warmly cheered by the spectators. In the last contest for the country 11-stone prize was last left thrown William Lawson, of Jarrow, in one of the best-contested falls of the day, and Thomas Pooley, of Longlands, a tall and well-built youngster, who, as well as his brother, showed some very good wrestling all through the afternoon. Rickerby gained the first and third falls, but the second was won by Pooley after a very severe and exhausting struggle. The course, in the match between men of all weights (as the men were, according to custom, placed by lot) some very unequal contests—contests in which, to use the familiar phrase, a hen was pitted against a horse—and one of the competitors had only to take up his opponent in his arms and deposit him quietly on his back on the sawdust; but there was a good deal of very even and excellent wrestling, and the two falls of the fifth round and the final falls were especially interesting from the celebrity of the men engaged and the skill which they displayed.

THE DECISIVE STRUGGLE

fell to John Nelson, of Kendal, who comes of an old wrestling ancestry, and George Steadman, of Appleby. Steadman seemed the stronger man of the two; but Nelson is a well-built young fellow, of good size and great power, and had the advantage of length of reach. The two men were exceedingly well matched, and their struggles were watched with the most absorbing interest. In the first instance Steadman threw Nelson, and there were loud shouts that he was certain of victory. When they next closed, however, he had to succumb to his younger antagonist, and the game stood "one and one." The next did not take long to breathe before the third fall; and, almost as soon as they faced each other, Steadman got well hold, threw his opponent, and carried off the best and cleanest falls of the day, and consequently the first prize. In the course of the afternoon there was a hurdle-race, which was won by the same Steadman, with H. Chapman second; and some pole-leaping, in which P. Winder, D. Armstrong, and Alnwick, and J. Allison, of Kendal, were placed respectively first, second, and third. Major Wills and Mr. J. Richardson officiated as umpires, and Mr. Hargetson was referee.

THE CRICKET SEASON.

The recurrence of Easter, and with it the opening of the cricket season, reminds us that, in accordance with annual custom, it becomes necessary we should take a cursory glance at the "bills of fare" provided for the delectation of the multitudinous patrons of the metropolitan, county, and other cricket grounds during the ensuing campaign. The cricket annuals—viz., "Wisden's Almanack" and "John Lillywhite's Companion"—have made their appearance, while "The Cricket Calendar," with its almost inexhaustible catalogue of "matches to come," is now in the hands of the printer. The busy note of preparation has been every where sounded. On Good Friday the weather being gloriously fine, all the minor clubs both in town and country, with one accord "donned their flannels" and enjoyed their favourite exercise to repletion. That there is no falling off either in the quantity or quality of the prospective arrangements is a matter of congratulation, and we hail with satisfaction the addition of the new Scotch County Elevens to the previously limited number, while in the sister isles, more particularly in Scotland, the national game is advancing in popularity with rapid strides. Nottinghamshire, par excellence "the nursery of cricket," set the ball rolling in earnest on Easter Monday by putting twenty-two of the best

of nearly a hundred candidates for county honours through the mill, their "trial team" being the celebrated Notts County Eleven, who patriotically rendered their services gratuitously to the committee on that occasion.

THE MARYLEBONE CLUB

has issued its full programme, which includes, *inter alia*, matches against the counties of Surrey (out and home), Middlesex, Kent, and Sussex—the two latter being welcome revivals—against both Universities (out and home), the usual military matches, the all-absorbing contests between Oxford and Cambridge, Eton and Harrow, and Gentlemen and Players; while on Whit Monday the "talent" of the North and South contend for the supremacy, the proceeds being devoted to the augmentation of the fund of the M.C.C. pro-fessional. On July 10 a rare and well-merited compliment is to be paid to Edgar Willsher, who has so long borne the brunt of Kent's battles; and, though certain to attract an effective one, a galaxy of talent will be sure to assemble to do honour to so worthy a player. Cheltenham, Winchester, Rugby, Eton, and Harrow; while Rugby encounters Marlborough, and Westminster Charterhouse, on the time-honoured arena at Lord's.

THE COUNTY OF SURREY

will encounter during the coming season (out and home) Middlesex, Gloucestershire, Yorkshire, Sussex, Kent, and Nottinghamshire. The latter match is, we regret to see, fixed to take place, at the Oval, during the "Canterbury week," which will deprive many lovers of the game from witnessing one of the most interesting matches of the London season. Surrey plays a single match against Cambridgeshire, and another against the Light-Blue University (Oxford is this year omitted from the list) and dines at home with M.C.C., "Gentlemen v. Players," and the South; and, though last enumerated, undoubtedly the foremost in importance, on July 31, a Hospital match for the especial behoof of H. Stephenson, who has so faithfully and zealously fought the battles of his county for the last seventeen years, and whose retirement will make a terrible gap in the Surrey ranks.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE,

as mentioned, commenced its season on Easter Monday, and all other counties ought to do, with its model County match. The Notts Eleven will meet in friendly rivalry, during the season, the counties of York (home) and Surrey (out and home). There is also a match to be played in May, in which the County team will test the calibre of fourteen of the best amateur Nottinghamshire can produce.

YORKSHIRE'S

principal engagements are with Nottinghamshire, Surrey, and Lancashire (out and home in each case), and with M.C.C. at Lord's. A match is also to be played for the benefit of another rare specimen of a cricketer—namely, Roger Iddison, who takes rank in my very foremost flight" of professionals, and is proverbial for his civility and honourable conduct.

LANCASHIRE

is only committed to two matches this season—viz., Yorkshire and Kent (out and home). The Gentlemen of Lancashire also play the Cambridge University. Lancashire is presumed, does not feel sufficiently strong in men or in funds, to venture into the North; so contents herself with waging warfare against her old and neighbouring rivals, Kent and Surrey, both of which counties she will contend, out and home. Aug. 14 will be a "red letter day" at Brighton, for then another "born veteran"

JOHN LILLYWHITE,

whose family have for the last half-century done admirable suit and service to cricket generally, and to their native county in particular—completes the quarter of benefactions in 1871, by appealing to a Sussex audience for a final recognition of his faithful services, the talent engaged and the deserved popularity of John Lillywhite will doubtless ensure him a "bumper."

KENT,

although at length emerging from the cloud which has so long overshrouded her cricket affairs, whose head-quarters are henceforward to be at Canterbury, Mr. W. Prior of her County Club to be intrusted to three: Mr. C. Baker, contents herself with playing home and home) county matches—viz., with Surrey, Sussex, and Lancashire, and with M.C.C. at Canterbury, and with M.C.C. at Lord's. The itinerary system of playing matches is, it seems, to be still pursued in Kent, but with Surrey, those with Lancashire and Sussex being set for Gravesend and Maidstone respectively. It is to be hoped that under the new management this county will soon recover her old prestige.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE,

which owes the existence of her county club to the "Brothers Grace," of Thornbury, Gloucestershire, on Playing Field, this year aspires to the honour of the M.C.C. Derbyshire, in addition to Surrey and Nottinghamshire, Worcestershire, and Staffordshire each now boasts a county club, and have matches *inter se*. Of Hampshire we have at present nothing. The great elevens have all made their engagements for the season, but these are too numerous for recapitulation, and those who desire information respecting them will do well to consult the pages of the "Cricket Calendar." Fine weather is alone wanting to render the cricket season of 1871 one of the most successful on record.

LONDON SWIMMING CLUB ATHLETIC SPORTS.

These sports take place at Tufnell Park to-day (Saturday). The long-distance men are promising quick time for this club's ten-mile race. We are informed that there will be a good field, and that the trouble of visiting Mr. Page's new grounds will be amply repaid by a race amongst those who mean going all the way. The programme will stand as follows: — 100-yards handicap flat race (members only), one prize; 440-yards handicap flat race (open), one prize; ten-miles handicap flat race (open), first prize silver cup, and two others; final heat 100 yards; final heat 440 yards; match between Messrs. Elliott and Clements; match between Messrs. Brooke and Clements. The London Swimming Club, we may add, continue to practise at the North London Baths, Pentonville, every Wednesday evening.

ANOTHER ANGLO-AMERICAN FOUR-OARED RACE — ENGLAND V. ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK, FOR £1000 AND THE CHAMPIONSHIP.

A short time since it was announced that a copy of articles for another race between the St. John, New Brunswick, four-oared crew and an English four had been received by the champion, James Renforth, at Newcastle. These have been considered satisfactory by the leading supporters of aquatics at Newcastle, and so great is the confidence felt in the home crew, that the whole of the money required for their part of the stake and necessary preliminary expenses was made up on Wednesday se'nnight, at a meeting held at Renforth's house, the Sir Charles Napier Inn. The articles provide that James Renforth and three other English oarsmen, and Robert Fulton and three other oarsmen, of St. John, N.B., shall row a four-oared race on the Kennebeccasis River, near St. John, New Brunswick, on Aug. 23 next, the distance to be six miles—three up and three down the river—and the race to be for £500 a side and the four-oared championship. The Canadian crew are to allow £200 for expenses.

Choice Bits.

THE CORONAL OF LABOUR,

ON THE OPENING OF THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES.

With blooming wreaths we decorate the shrine
Of the bright seraph Labour, man's true friend,
And leaves of laurel with the olive twine,
While azure skies in welcome o'er us bend.

Labour exulting from the ground upsprings
As with the kingly eagle's plumes of fire;
Faith, Hope, and Love shed incense from their wings,
As up to Merit's summit they aspire.

Each bead-drop gemming Labour's gleaming brow
Outshines the lustre of the diamond star,
And victories win the hammer, pen, and plough,
Surpassing all the conquests gained by war.

Greater are they who wear the bays of fame
By peaceful efforts for their country's good,
Than those who ride 'mid battle-smoke and flame,
And o'er the green earth roll the crimson flood.

Minerva mounts her chariot, takes the field
Whence Mars in shame is driven to ebon night;
And on the flag above her head and shield
Shine "Peace and Toil" in characters of light.

Labour is fortune's nurse, the helmsman strong,
That steers the Life-ship 'mid the breakers hurl'd;
'Tis Freedom's Charter, Nature's holy song,
The sturdy Atlas that upholds the world.

The works of patient toil are here enshrined,
All nations into closer union brought;
We mark the steady hand, the soaring mind,
Devotion, genius, perseverance, thought.

With manly sinews, toiling side by side,
In rival glory, to make angels glad,
Have gentle fingers busy needles plied,
The love of duty all the praise they had.

No jealousies of faith or clime intrude;
"All men are brethren" on the banner shows;
With cheerful friendship every heart 's imbued,
And hands are clasped like leaves around the rose.

The brain said to the hand "Fulfil
My grand conceptions with thy skill;
Let the Lord's talents brightly shine,
And glorify His name divine."

Then one the chisel's marvels wrought
In marble, like embodied thought;
Another on the canvas threw
Of colour every dazzling hue;

Some sailed on sparkling seas of sound,
Some roamed o'er Fancy's fairy ground,
Some built the strong-knit barque to float
And other on the anvil smote;

Some sped the shuttle through the loom,
And some the engines made to boom;
And some with flowers jewell'd o'er
The emerald carpets of the shore.

Some till'd the earth, some temples reared,
And all with song their labour cheered;
While e'en the least performed his part
For Science, Commerce, Trade, and Art.

The glory gained in the battle stained
With the blood of a fallen brother,
Cannot heal the smart of the broken heart
Of the orphan child and mother.

While low in the dust for ever rust
The cannon, sword, and sabre;
Fresh garlands bring and crown him King,
The earth's best Champion, Labour.

Reward and success to the men who bless
The world on their pathway thorny;
Who scatter the seeds of useful deeds
With hands embrowned and horny.

Chivalrous and strong 'gainst vice and wrong,
Proud knights of the noble order;
Their shields are bright with honours light,
And flowers their garments border.

The rank and file of our glorious isle,
God send them peace and plenty!
May each coin they get by honest sweat
Be multiplied by twenty.

Industry weaves of amaranth leaves
The chaplet their brows adorning;
And they shall restore the grandeur of yore,
And the joy of earth's early morning.

A great soul in a peasant's form
God oftentimes reveals,
And hearts 'neath rags may beat as warm
As those a robe conceals.
And, oh, remember, ye who give
Employ to labour's hands,
That those by daily toil who live
Have hearts as well as hands.

All honour to the working band,
Who England's power uphold;
May history with truthful hand
Inscribe their deeds in gold.
In spite of cares that well might damp
The ardour of their plan,
They in eternal marble stamp
The dignity of Man!

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